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is essentially a new book rather than a second edition of that formerly noted.³

Beginning with a sketch of the history of the botanical exploration of New Zealand, and noting the landmarks in her botanical literature, the author instructs the reader regarding the fundamental concepts of plant ecology in clear and simple terms, preparing him to follow appreciatively the description of New Zealand plants, not only considered as individuals, but as grouped in communities. Separate chapters are devoted to the vegetation of the sea coast, the inland waters, the mountains, and the outlying islands, as well as to the forests, the scrub, and the grasslands. The descriptions are so good that not only may they be understood by the New Zealand school boy (for it is an authorized textbook in the public schools), but they may also serve to furnish a graphic picture of a unique vegetation to the ecologists of other lands. For the latter the separation of New Zealand into botanical districts and the analysis of the flora into its different elements is particularly interesting. Moreover, the botanist is not at a loss to know what plants are intended by their common designations, for the scientific names always follow. In this, as well as in the use of many excellent illustrations, the volume may well be regarded as showing a standard of excellence seldom attained.—GEO. D. FULLER.

MINOR NOTICES

Cactaceae.—The second volume of the elaborate monograph of Cactaceae by BRITTON and ROSE⁴ has just appeared. In fullness of description and wealth of illustration it leaves nothing to be desired. The colored plates are particularly noteworthy. The volume includes two of the eight subtribes of Cereae. In subtribe Cereaneae, 38 genera are recognized, including 16 new genera as follows: *Monvillea*, *Espostoa*, *Browningia*, *Stelsonia*, *Corryocactus*, *Erdisia*, *Leocereus*, *Dendrocereus*, *Machaerocereus*, *Brachycereus*, *Jasminocereus*, *Binghamia*, *Arrojadoa*, *Facheiroa*, *Zehnterella*, and *Neoraimondia*. There are also described 40 new species distributed among the various genera. The subtribe Hylocereanae includes nine genera, *Wilmattea*, *Mediocactus*, and *Deamia* being new, and 48 species, 6 of which are new. The monograph is an impressive illustration of the extensiveness of the cactus flora and its need of taxonomic reconstruction.—J.M.C.

Flora of Jamaica.—The fourth volume of FAWCETT and RENDLE's *Flora of Jamaica*⁵ continues the Dicotyledons, which began in the third volume,

³ BOT. GAZ. 52: 159. 1911.

⁴ BRITTON, N. L., and ROSE, J. N., The Cactaceae. Vol. II. Publ. Carnegie Inst. no. 248. pp. vii+239. pls. 40. figs. 305. 1920.

⁵ FAWCETT, W., and RENDLE, A. B., Flora of Jamaica, containing descriptions of the flowering plants known from the island. Vol. IV. Dicotyledons (Leguminosae to Callitrichaceae). 8vo. xv+369. figs. 114. Published by the British Museum. 1920.